WEST VIRGINIA SPLATTER

MARCH 2025

ESTIMATING CLOUD COVER

Many years ago while in Uncle Sam's Canoe Club, one of my duties while at sea involved observiing, recording and preparing a daily report of the current weather conditions including our ships location and the cloud cover in tenths of the sky. I had problems estimating cloud cover until my Chief ordered a pizza.

He had me imagine the sky as a giant pizza cut in half. Another cut turned those halves into quarters and two more cuts let me see the sky in eight slices. It wasn't very difficult to count the number of slices covered by clouds of some type.

If one slice (or one eighth of the sky) was covered by clouds, I reported one tenth. Two slices gave me three tenths. Three slices, four tenths. Four slices was half the sky or five tenths. Five slices became six tenths. Six slices became eight tenths. Seven slices became nine tenths. Eight slices covered the entire sky and I would report ten tenths.

These estimates aren't precise, but they were on a par with the rest of our recording and reporting equipment and capabilities. Besides, no one on board had a better system. It did result in a more consistent estimate of cloud cover.

And yes, this considering the sky as a giant pizza did make me hungry. But my weather reports were usually timed for 1600 hours local time. As soon as I got it turned in I could head to the mess deck for chow.

WRITE FOR WV SPLATTER?

I need more and different articles for WV SPLATTER, from short fillers to long, multi-page articles. If you know of an event coming up in a couple of months, have an idea for an article you want to write, or something you want me to research and write about, then drop me an email at nettlescreek@frontier.com

Use the same address to submit email addresses for anyone you think might be interested in being on the WV SPLATTER Distribution List. They don't have to be in West Virginia, they don't even have to be a ham.

The West Virginia Amateur Radio Club has posted current and back issues of WV SPLATTER on their website at www.wvar.com This emphasizes our intention that WV Splatter be a newsletter for all hams in West Virginia. Reposting WV SPLATTER on other club websites is encouraged. Just let me know so I can pass the word along.

FEMA INDEPENDENT STUDY COURSES

I have mentioned these FREE internet courses in a past issue of WV SPLTTER, but it bears repeating. The Federal Emergency Management Agency provides lots of free courses related to emeregency management for professionals and unpaid volunteers who are involved with disaster response and emergency managemenet. These courses change from time to time. Some of those I took in the 1980's are no longer relevant or offered. Search online for FEMA INDEPENDENT STUDY COURSE LIST for the latest offerings.

Any Amateur Radio Operators involved in RACES or ARES should take the two Incident Command System and two National Incident Management courses so they can access the state and local Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) during disaster response if they are asked to help out. Without these courses you may be asked to help at a shelter or provide communications for lllan outpost or some other location but you won't be allowed in the EOC. They are also prerequisites for class room training in ICS 300 and ICS 400 These couese are:

- IS 100c - Introduction to the Incident Command System,
- IS 200c - Basic Incident Command Systen for Initial Response,
- IS 700b - Introduction to the National Incident Management System, and
- IS 800d - National Resonse Framework; An Introduction.

ICS 300 – Intermedite Incident Command System foi Expanding Incidents and ICS-400: Advanced Incident Command Systems for Command and General Staff for Complex Incidents, West Virginia Auxilliary Communications all require these four online courses before you can attend these in class courses. Note: None of these courses or any other FEMA courses will teach you how to operate a radio. They will teach you how the different response agencie and levels of government interact during a disaster.

Here are a number of other Independent Study Courses I found interesting:

- IS 10a - Animals in Disasters: Awareness and Preparedness,
- IS 29a - Public Information Officer Awareness,
- IS 35.25 - FEMA Safety Orientation,
- IS 42a - Social Media in Emergency Management,
- IS 66 - Preparing the Nation for Space Weather Events,
- IS 241c - Decision Making and Problem Solving,
- IS 242c - Effective Communication,
- IS 244b - Developing and Managing Volunteeers,
- IS 271a - Anticipating Hazardous Weather and Community Risk,
- IS 325 - Earthquake Basics; Science, Risk and Mitigation,
- IS 951 - DHS Radio Interoperability, and
- IS 1023 - Electrical Systems Considerations.

I haven't taken all these courses yet, but the titles alone got me interested. Last year there was a course in choosing and using a generator during disasters. It isn't on this years list. I snoozed! I loozed!

WEST VIRGINIA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NETS

Northern Panhandle Amateur Radio Club
Sunday at 7:00 PM
Digital net 441.825

Kanawha Amateur Radio Club Net
Sundays at 8:30 PM
145.350 PL 91.5

8 Rivers ARC Net (Pocahontas County)
Sundays at 9:00 PM
145.11 PL 107.2

8 Rivers Six Meter Net (Pocahontas County)
Thursday, 9:00 PM
53.33 MHZ Tone 156

Ritchie Amateur Group (RAG) Net
Thursday at 9:00 PM
147.300 MHz Tone 107.2

Black Diamond ARC Net (Raleigh County)
Friday, 9:00 PM
145.370 MHz PL 100.0

CWVWA Net
Thursday 9:00 PM
147.165 MHz Tone 91.5

Coal Country ARC Net (Boone County)
Tuesday 9:00 PM
147.195 MHz

Eastern Panhandle Traffic Net
(Jefferson, Morgan and Berkley Counties)
Daily 6:45 PM
147.255 MHz Tone 123

Mason County Amateur Radio Group
Monday 9:00 PM
442.400 MHz Tone 91.5

Pioneer Amateur Radio Association 2 M Net
Central West Virginia
Tuesday 7:00 PM
146.835 MHz

Plateau Amateur Radio Association 2 M Net
Thursday 8:00 PM
146.790 MHz

Buffalo 10 Meter Net
Thursday 8:00 PM at 28.405

WV Amateur Radio Club Information Net
Tuesday at 8:30 P.M.
147.270 – offset PL Tone 123.0
EchoLink Node 439354

Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub (P.A.R.K.)
Tuesdays, 9:00 PM on all linked repeaters.
146.970 MHz -offset Tone 91.5
147.390 MHz +offset Tone 91.5
444.725 MHz + offset Tone 91.5

Country Roads Net
Thursday 8:00 P.M
WV-Link Room 46488
Local Node Connection:
WVAR UHF 441.825 (Scott Depot, WV)
WB8CQV VHF 147.21 MHz (S.Charleston)
Hot spots use US-WV-LINK (19941)

Pocahontas County Coffee Net
Monday-Wednesday-Friday 10:30 AM
146.730 – Tone 100.0
EchoLink WB8CNN-L

Mon County Amateur Radio Club Net
Wednesday at 8:00 PM
147.075 Tone 103.5
Linked to HAMTALK System

JARC (Jackson County)
Monday 8:00 PM
146.670 MHz Tone 107.2

Monongalia Wireless Association
Monday 9:00 PM
145.430 MHz Tone 103.5

Mountain State FM Net (Tucker County)
Saturday 9:00 PM 145.370 MHz

Potomac Highlands Amateur Radio Net (Hardy)
Monday 8:30 PM
145.190 MHz

Stonewall Jackson ARA 2 M Net
Tuesday 9:00 PM
147.210 MHz Tone 103.5

DMR Net by David Sexton AB8D
Tuesday at 7:30 PM W8MOP 444.45 DMR repeater
on the 3154 WV statewide talk group

WEST VIRGINIA ARES AND SKYWARN NETS

Kanawha ARES Net
Sundays at 8:00 PM
145.350 PL 91.5

Jefferson County ARES Net
Sunday at 8:30 PM
147.2WV Eastern Region ARES Net
Monday at 8:00 PM
147.255 MHz

Cabell County ARES Net
Monday at 8:30pm
On the following linked repeaters:
W8VA 146.76 MHz PL 131.8
N8OLC 146.985 MHz PL 131.8
KB8TGK 443.850 MHz PL 162.2 (Echolink)

Tri-Counties ARC ARES Net
Boone, Lincoln and Logan Counties
Tuesday at 7:30 PM
145.17 Tone 100.0

MARA weekly ARES WX net
Wednesdays, 9:00 P.M.
145.35 MHz PL 103.5

Marion County ARES Net
Wednesday 8:00 PM
145.350 MHz

*The West Virginia **ARES HF** Net*
First Thursday of each month
After WV Fone Net at 2200 UTC
3.805 MHz or 7.235 MHz

Mason County Amateur Radio Group ARES
Monday 9:00 PM
444.300 MHz Tone 91.5

Multi County ARES NET (HAMTALK System)
Tuesday 9:00 PM
146.685 MHz

Northern WV ARES/RACES Net
Wednesday 8:30 PM
145.300 MHz

TSARC Skywarn Net
Tuesday 7:15 PM
146.910 MHz

Blufield Skywarn Net Mercer County
Monday 7:30 PM (Except first Monday)
145.490 MHz

Raleigh County ARES Net
Monday 8:00
145.370 MHz Tone 100
EchoLink 145.370-R

Fayette County ARES Training and INFO Net
Second and Fourth Thursdays each
Month at 8:30 PM - 146.790 MHz

Tri-State Skywarn Net
Friday's at 8:00 PM
On WVAR's 147.27o Tone 123 linked to
Ashland' 's 146.94 repeater.

Ohio Valley ARES Net
Saturday 10:00 AM
441.825 Mhz

District 6 ARES Net (Mineral, Grant, Hardy, Morgan,Jefferson Berkeley and Hampshire)
Sunday 8:30 PM
147.390 MHz Tone 123

District 7 ARES Net (Raleigh County)
Tuesday 8:00 PM
145.370 MHz Tone 100

Gilmer County ARES/RACES Net
Monday 9:00 PM
145.290 MHz

Mercer County ARES Net
Third Thursday 7:30 PM
145.490 MHz

Ohio County ARES Net
Sunday 8:00 PM
146.760 MHz

Pendleton County ARES/RACES Net
Second and Fourth Thursday 8:30 PM
147.345 MHz

Wayne County ARES Net
Monday 9:00 PM
147.390 MHz

WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY
FRIDAY, APRIL18, 2025

On April 18, 1925 the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) was formed in Paris, France. Since then, April 18th has been *World Amateur Radio Day*. This year marks the one hundredth anniversary of organization of the IARU.

This year all associations, clubs, schools and other organizations involved it amateur radio are encouraged to commemorate this anniverasry by holding an open house. This could expose elected officials, school children and the public to amateur radio and its newest methods of communication such as the numerous digital radio communication methods. It would also demonstrate the path to careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathmatics (STEM) via amateur radio. This would NOT be a contest! Instead, it would be an opportunity to introduce amateur radio to individuals who might not otherwise learn about our hobby and its utility in the development of science and disaster operations.

If every amateur radio organization in West Virginia set up a few "stations" at fire departments, city buildings, parking lots or other public spaces it would have an enormous impact on telling our friends and neighbors about amateur radio. These stations might be as simple as hand-held radios, brochures to distribute and a few chairs around a table. If you have a portable HF rig such as one you use for POTA or Field Day, it would allow visitors to see long distance communications in action.

Organizations in neighboring areas could coordinate frequency usage so visitors to an open house in Fairmont could talk to visitors at a station in Morgantown or Clarksburg, or both. On HF the possibilities are endless.

In addition to educating visitors to your open house, this provides a great opportunity to talk about to your local news media about the upcoming open house, Field Day, your local club and any local ARES or RACES activities in your area.

Any individual or group who intends to operate an open house for *World Amateur Radio Day* can send me the details (date, time, repeater, HF frequencies, modes and location) for inclusion in April's WV SPLATTER. I need the information by the middle of March so I have time to prepare the final draft of the issue and distribute it around March 20. I hope a number of organizations in and near West Virginia participate in *World Amateur Radio Day* by operating open house stations in their area.

"I am often asked how radio works. Well, you see, wire telegraphy is like a very long cat. You yank his tail in New York and he meows in Los Angeles. Do you understand this? Now, radio is exactly the same, except that there is no cat."

-Attributed to Albert Einstein

INTERNET ARCHIVE

Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communications

Internet Archive is building the Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communications: a massive, free, open access, online library devoted to ham radio and related topics.

Internet Archive is a non-profit online library, best known for the Wayback Machine. The DLARC library is funded by a grant from the Amateur Radio Digital Communications foundation.

What if anyone could learn from and contribute to the more than 100 years of knowledge underlying amateur radio and digital communications? What if the resources from this century of knowledge production were preserved forever and openly accessible to students, researchers, scholars, and the general public in an online digital library? What if this resource provided free, comprehensive access for a new generation of scholars and enthusiasts? The Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communications will do that.

The DLARC library will preserve vital resources — past, present, and future — documenting the history of amateur radio and communications.

To fill this library we need:

- your donations of ham radio books, magazines, newsletters, catalogs, manuals, videotapes, etc. that Internet Archive will digitize
- your permission to include the ham radio content that you have created, such as podcasts, YouTube videos, blogs, etc.

If you have material to contribute to the DLARC library or questions about the project, contact Kay Savetz (K6KJN) at kay@archive.org

Celebrating its 26-year history, the Internet Archive is a 501(c)(3) non-profit digital library founded by Brewster Kahle in 1996 with the mission to provide "universal access to all knowledge." The Internet Archive seeks to preserve the world's cultural heritage and to provide open access to our shared knowledge in the digital era, supporting the work of historians, scholars, journalists, students, the blind and reading disabled, as well as the general public via https://archive.org.

Located in San Francisco, California, the Internet Archive currently maintains a freely-accessible, online digital library and archive of more than 99 petabytes of unique data: 700 billion web captures, 7 million films and videos, 14 million audio recordings, 38 million texts, over 750,00 pieces of software and 2 million hours of recorded television. Each day, over 3 million visitors use or contribute to the Internet Archive, making it one of the world's 250 most popular sites with over 200 page views per second and 33 billion total downloads. Internet Archive's Wayback Machine, the largest and oldest publicly-available web archive, was launched in 2001 and currently contains 700+ billion web captures. The Internet Archive actively works in partnership with national libraries and archives, universities, governments, research institutions, and other organizations across the world on web data preservation, digital archiving standards, digitization, data stewardship, and open source technology development.

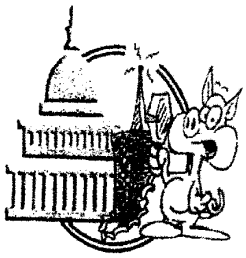
Building the Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communications (DLARC) will consist of three broad areas of work:

- a large-scale scanning program that digitizes relevant print materials such as journals, monographs, books, physical ephemera, and other physical records from both institutions and individuals;

- a large-scale digital archiving initiative that seeks to curate, archive, and provide specialized access to "born-digital" materials, such as digital photos and audio-video, as well as websites and web-published material;

- a personal archiving campaign to ensure the preservation and future access of notable individuals and stakeholders involved in the founding and activities of ARDC and the broader community.

Access to the outputs of these three areas will be via the creation of a free, openly accessible, specialized online digital library and search and discovery portal that includes a full-text search of all text content, educational resources, archival collections, and ample metadata and contextual information for navigating and using the items in the DLARC.



41st Annual

CHARLESTON AREA HAMFEST

Saturday, March 1, 2025
9 AM to 1 PM

BENI KEDEM TEMPLE
100 Quarrier Street
Charleston, WV 25301
Easy access off the interstates with
FREE PARKING BESIDE THE BUILDING!
(Handicap-accessible entrance left side)

Grand Prize: $500 Cash!
2nd Prize: Yaesu FTM-200D 2m/440/C4FM Digi/FM Xcvr
3rd Prize: $100 DX Engineering Gift Certificate

Plus Half-Hour Door Prize Drawings for Baofeng Dual Band Handhelds

Admission: $10 ("Extra" tickets $2 for more chances to win prizes)
Tables: $10
Limited Electric at no charge; first come-first serve (bring your own extension cord)

For table reservations, contact Fred Vickers WV8FV ***Reserve yours now—limited table space!***
wv8fv@arrl.net or 304-421-1707

Load in: Friday, Feb 28 from 2 to 4:30 PM
Saturday, March 1 from 7 to 8:30 AM
(bring your own cart for load-in)

Forums: ARRL 10 AM; ARES 11 AM
ARRL VE Testing at 12 Noon

For More Info: qsl.net/w8gk or E mail n8tmw@arrl.net